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CURRENT SUPPORT BRIEF

NIZHNY TAGIL PLANT IDENTIFIED AS LOX CAR PRODUCER

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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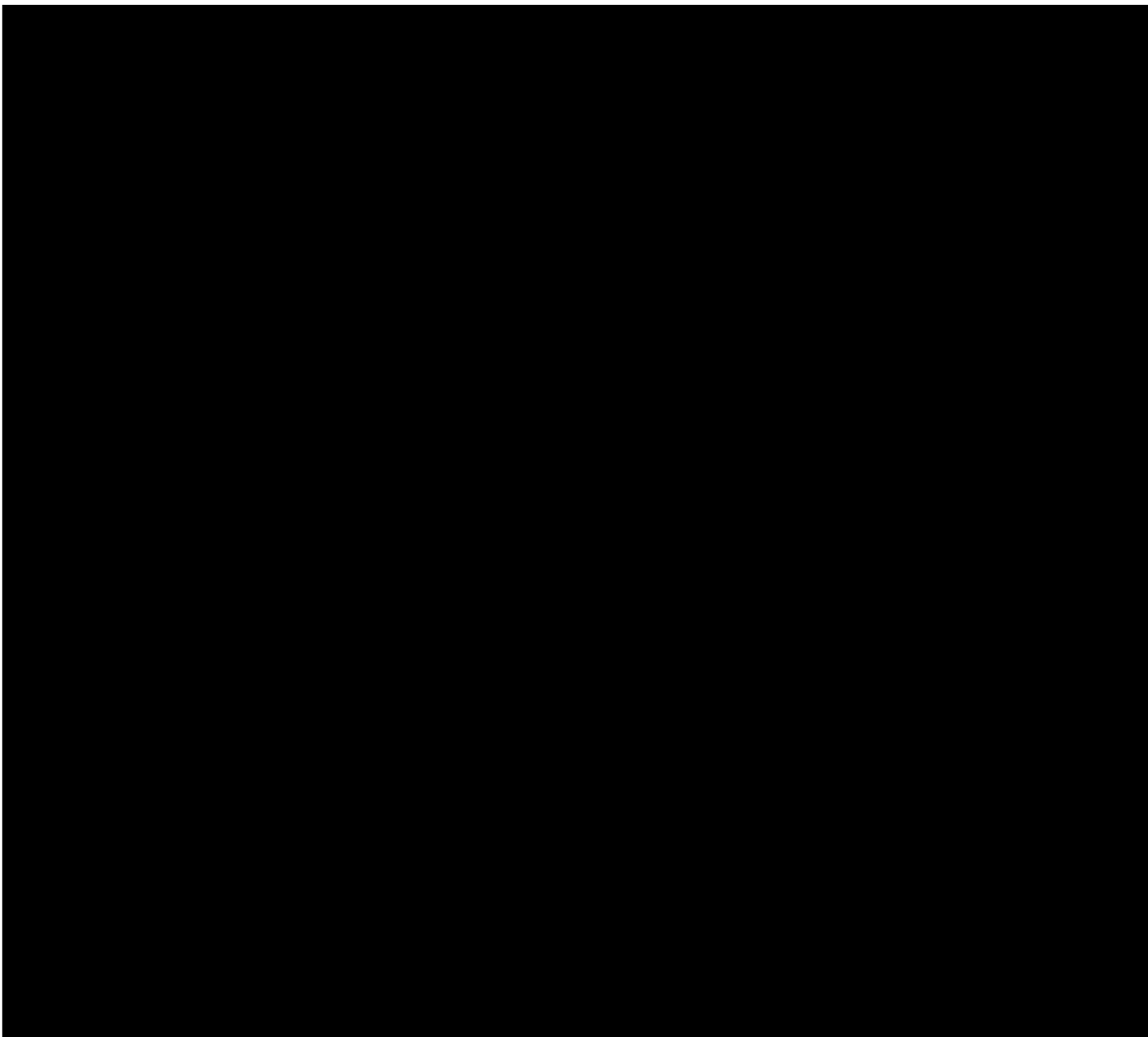
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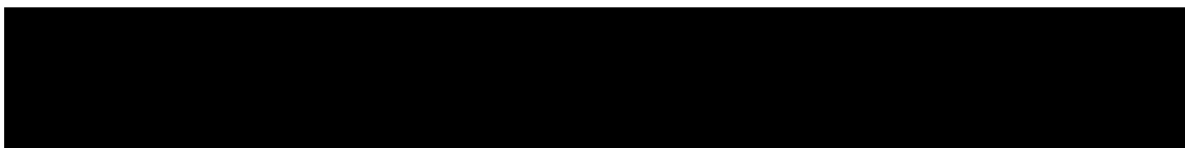
NIZHNY TAGIL PLANT IDENTIFIED AS LOX CAR PRODUCER

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Analysis [REDACTED] indicates that the freight car building plant (Uralvagonzavod) located in Nizhny Tagil is a major -- and possibly the only -- producer of the liquid oxygen tank car (LOX) which is thought to be used in support of guided missile research and development and deployment. 25X1B



It is normal practice that all cars of a special type such as this are produced at a single plant. The Ural plant, probably the largest producer of freight cars in the USSR, is capable of producing such a



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car. It has shown a rather high degree of flexibility in the design and output of freight cars in the past. It now produces 4-axle box cars, 4-axle gondola cars, the high capacity 6-axle all-metal gondola car and high-capacity hopper cars of various types for industrial use. It produced a so-called universal car with sliding roof and bottom-drop dumping experimentally in 1954 and produced flat cars for some years through 1952.

The LOX car in question is structurally a flat car with a tank lying on its side strapped to the platform of the car. The tank is enclosed by a metal housing of sheet steel. It is possible that the Ural plant does not possess equipment for fabricating the tanks and that they are shipped in as completed components. If so they could be produced in any number of steel fabricating plants.

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Analysts:

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Coord:

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